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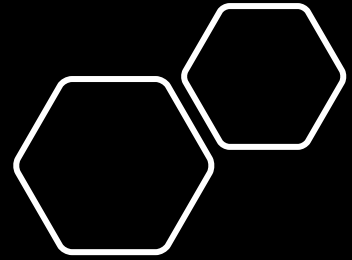
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GAZA CITY
Gaza rescuers say 11 from one family killed in Israeli air strike



Gaza's civil defence agency said an Israeli air strike hit a house in Gaza City on Saturday morning and killed 11 members of a single family, including women and children. The strike took place near the Shulayya school in the Al-Tuffah neighbourhood of Gaza City, agency spokesperson Mahmoud Bassal said.

ISLAMABAD
Pakistan removes special representative to Afghanistan



The Pakistan government has removed its special representative to Afghanistan Araf Durrani, amid heightened tensions between Islamabad and Kabul, media reports said on Saturday. No official reason was given for the move. However, it said Mr. Durrani failed to make an impact on the Pakistan-Afghanistan relationship.

TAUNGGOO
Myanmar junta makes rare request for foreign aid to cope with floods



Myanmar's junta chief made a rare request on Saturday for foreign aid to cope with deadly floods that have displaced hundreds of thousands of people who have already endured three years of war in Myanmar, more than 2.35,000 people have been forced from their homes by floods, the junta said on Friday.

SYDNEY
Australia PM hits back at Musk after 'fascists' remark about govt.



Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese hit back at Elon Musk on Saturday after the tech mogul called his government 'fascist' for proposing laws that would fine social media giants for spreading misinformation. Mr. Albanese fired back at Mr. Musk, saying social media "has a social responsibility".

Russia, Ukraine swap 206 POWs in UAE-brokered deal

The Russians released in the swap were captured during Ukraine's incursion into Kursk region, while some of the Ukrainians freed had been prisoners since Moscow seized Azovstal in May 2022

Agence France-Presse KYIV

Moscow and Kyiv swapped 103 prisoners of war each on Saturday in a deal brokered by the United Arab Emirates (UAE), a rare moment of coordination between the two warring sides as Russia pushes ahead in east Ukraine.



Back home: A volunteer hugs a Ukrainian prisoner of war following a swap at an undisclosed location in Ukraine.

The Russians released in the swap were captured during Ukraine's incursion into the Kursk region, Moscow said, while some of the Ukrainians freed had been held prisoner since Moscow seized the Azovstal steel plant in May 2022.

Russia confirmed it had received 103 Ukrainian Army prisoners, and as well as 21 officers, Mr. Zelenskyy said. "The defenders of Kyiv, Donetsk, Mariupol and Azovstal, Lugansk, Zaporizhzhia and the Kharkiv regions," he added.

Ukraine's Foreign Ministry hailed the deal as a "success" and thanked both sides for their cooperation on Saturday. The Kremlin regularly claims its Army has captured small villages in eastern Ukraine.

Russia says it recaptured a village in east Ukraine

Agence France-Presse MOSCOW

Russia said on Saturday that it had recaptured another village in eastern Ukraine, where it has made a string of advances. "The locality of Zhelannevskoye (Zhelannevskoye in Ukrainian) was freed thanks to the active and decisive operations of the southern units," the Defence Ministry said.

Maldives says it is 'well prepared' to avert default

Meera Selinivasan COLOMBO

Despite global lenders and rating agencies flagging a "high risk" of debt distress in the Maldives, the government said it is well prepared to stave off a financial meltdown.

Addressing Colombo-based presspersons on Friday evening, Minister of Foreign Affairs Moosa Zameer and Minister of Finance Mohamed Shafeeq ruled out a possible default and pointed to "crucial steps" taken by the government towards fiscal consolidation and reform.



Helping hands: Imports-reliant Maldives has borrowed heavily over the years for infrastructure and other needs.

Tourist arrivals have seen an uptick in 2024. Chinese arrivals lead the list, contributing 12% of visitors, while arrivals from India declined sharply from 11% of visitors to 6%.

President Mohamed Muizzu assumed office in November 2023 after a big election win - he has a formidable majority in Parliament or People's Majlis as well - but curbing a daunting challenge as the Indian Ocean archipelago grapples with high external debt.

President Mohamed Muizzu assumed office in November 2023 after a big election win - he has a formidable majority in Parliament or People's Majlis as well - but curbing a daunting challenge as the Indian Ocean archipelago grapples with high external debt.

Iran launches new research satellite, puts it into orbit

Agence France-Presse TEHRAN

Iran on Saturday blasted a new research satellite into orbit, state media said, in the latest such development for an aerospace programme that has long faced Western criticism.

In solidarity



A protester holds a placard reading 'He who sleeps does not consent' in support of Gisèle Pelicot in Rennes, France. Drugged by her husband and raped in her sleep for over 10 years, Pelicot attends the trial, becoming the first to fight against chemical submission.

France's Le Pen calls for fresh elections next year

Agence France-Presse PARIS

The parliamentary leader of France's far-right National Rally party on Saturday called for fresh elections next year, just months after snap polls threw the country into political deadlock.



Marine Le Pen during the French far-right RN party's parliamentary seminar at the French National Assembly on Saturday.

Macron's second and final mandate ends. The President had hoped to re-assess his relationship and majority in Parliament by calling for the elections.

German military ships in Taiwan Strait increase security risks: China

Agence France-Presse BEIJING

China on Saturday accused Berlin of heightening security risks in the Taiwan Strait, a day after two German military vessels sailed through the sensitive waters.



Beijing views Taiwan as a renegade province and claims jurisdiction over the water body separating the island from mainland.

German Defence Minister Boris Pistorius confirmed on Friday that the frigates Baden-Wuerttemberg and the supply vessel Frankfurt am Main sailed through the strait.

China on Saturday accused Berlin of heightening security risks in the Taiwan Strait, a day after two German military vessels sailed through the sensitive waters.

Iran launches new research satellite, puts it into orbit

Agence France-Presse

TEHRAN

Iran on Saturday blasted a new research satellite into orbit, state media said, in the latest such development for an aerospace programme that has long faced Western criticism.

“The Chamran-1 research satellite was successfully launched and put into orbit by the Ghaem-100 carrier,” state television said.

The satellite, which weighs around 60 kg, is designed to test hardware and software systems for orbital manoeuvre technology, the TV report said.

The device was designed and built by Iranian Electronics Industries affiliated with the Defence Ministry, state TV said.

Repeated warnings

Western governments including the United States have repeatedly warned Iran against such launches, saying the same technology can be used for ballistic missiles, including ones designed to deliver a nuclear warhead.

Iran has countered that it is not seeking nuclear weapons and that its satellite and rocket launches are for civil or defence purposes only.

The Ghaem-100 rocket which carried the latest satellite is manufactured by the aerospace organisation of Iran’s Revolutionary Guard Corps, an arm of the military.

Iran has for years been advancing its aerospace activities, insisting they are in accordance with UNSC resolutions.





WHAT'S INSIDE



Spotlight, P5
Pushing Bharat
How chefs are introducing rustic flavours to urban dwellers in restaurants and fine-dining establishments in innovative ways

FOODS WORTH, P4
Word for thought
An anti-obesity thriller digs deep into why we get fat, and are weight-loss drugs the answer

IN THE NEWS
K-PRINCIPAL OF RG AR CHARGED WITH APE-MURDER TOO
The CBI on Saturday added rape and murder charge against former RG Kar spital principal Sandip Joshi, an agency official said. Joshi is currently in judicial custody in a corruption case. A policeman was also arrested in a rape and murder case.

ERRORISM REATHING ITS AST IN J&K: PM
ASSERTING that terrorism is taking its last breath in Jammu & Kashmir, PM Narendra Modi said his government rejected new leadership to enter dynastic politics that a destroyed "this beautiful nation". Addressing an election by in Doda, Modi also reiterated his government's resolve of restoring statehood Jammu & Kashmir. **PAGE 2**

When home away from home goes beyond a tagline

Hotels offering suites functioning as itely equipped homes

BUREAU
New Delhi, September 14

WHEN THE TAJ Mahal Hotel in New Delhi was renovated during pandemic, the hotel dedicated to whole floors to residential tiers. The 27 one- and two-bedroom suites come with a pantry equipped with all appliances edded for a home-like experience, including a refrigerator, washing machine, dishwasher, crockery, kettle and an iron and ironing board.

THE Oberoi Mumbai introduced 20 residential suites in two categories, offering all the comforts of a hotel to long-stay guests.

year introduced 20 residential suites in two categories that again offer all the comforts of a hotel to long-stay guests.

FINES LIKELY FOR ANTI-COMPETITIVE PRACTICES
Samsung, Xiaomi colluded with Amazon, Flipkart: CCI

Smartphone makers told to submit financials for past three fiscal years

REUTERS
New Delhi, September 14

SAMSUNG, XIAOMI and other smartphone companies colluded with Amazon and Walmart's Flipkart to exclusively launch products on the e-commerce firms' Indian websites in breach of antitrust laws, according to regulatory reports seen by Reuters.

Antitrust investigations conducted by the Competition Commission of India (CCI) have found that Amazon and Flipkart violated local competition laws by giving preference to select sellers, prioritising certain listings, and steeply discounting products, hurting other companies, Reuters reported this week.

The CCI's 1,027-page report on Amazon also said the Indian units of five companies—Samsung, Xiaomi, Motorola, Realme and OnePlus—were "involved in the practice of exclusive" phone launches in "collusion" with Amazon and its affiliates, breaking competition law.

In Flipkart's case, a 1,696-page CCI report said the Indian units of Samsung, Xiaomi, Motorola, Vivo, Lenovo and Realme conducted similar practices.

The inclusion of smartphone makers like Samsung and Xiaomi in the case could increase their legal and compliance headaches. "Exclusivity in business is anathema. Not only is it against free and fair competition but also against the interest of consumers," CCI's additional director general GV Siva Prasad wrote in the Amazon and Flipkart reports, in identical findings.

Reuters is first to report the smartphone companies have been accused of anti-competitive behaviour in the CCI's reports which are dated August 9 and are not public.

The companies declined to comment, while the other smartphone makers did not respond to requests for comment. Amazon, Flipkart and the CCI did not respond, and have not so far commented on the report's findings. Both the CCI reports said that during investigations Amazon and Flipkart "deliberately downplayed" allegations of exclusive launches, but officials found the practice was "rampant".

KEY FINDINGS

- Preferred sellers**
Amazon had six preferred sellers, Flipkart had 33, who got preferential treatment. Sellers received marketing, warehousing, other services at "minuscule cost"; Amazon, Flipkart used foreign investments to provide subsidised rates
- Exclusive product launches**
Amazon, Flipkart partnered with tech companies to launch devices exclusively, hurting smaller retailers
- Deep discounting**
Amazon, Flipkart enabled preferred sellers to give deep discounts, selling much below cost to drive out competition
- Smartphone brands under lens**
Samsung
Xiaomi
Motorola
Vivo
Lenovo
Realme
OnePlus
- amazon**
Preferential listings
Products appearing at top of Amazon, Flipkart listings from preferred sellers, creating barrier for other sellers



Continued on Page 2

Cong fresh salvo: Buch invested in Chinese firms

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, September 14

IN A FRESH round of allegations against Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) chairman Madhabi Buch, the Congress on Saturday claimed she traded in listed securities while in possession of unpublished price-sensitive information and has been investing in Chinese firms at a time when India is facing geopolitical tensions with China. Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh pointed to "fresh conflict of interest allegations" against Buch, claiming that she, as a whole-time member and later as Sebi chairperson, traded in listed securities worth ₹26.9 crore while in possession of unpublished price-sensitive information.

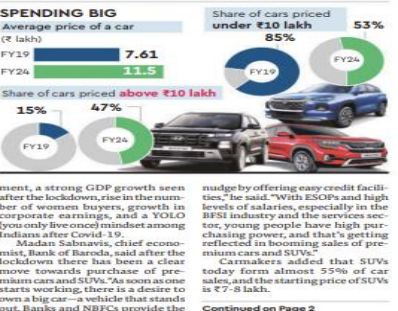
Cong also claims that as a whole-time member and Sebi chairperson, Madhabi Buch traded in listed securities worth ₹26.9 crore while in possession of unpublished price-sensitive information.

The Congress attack comes a day after Buch said she had made all necessary disclosures and complied with recusal guidelines in dealing with companies such as Mahindra Group that listed her husband, as she rejected allegations of impropriety as "false, malicious and motivated".

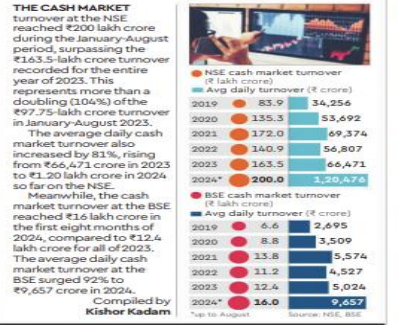


Continued on Page 2

Indian car buyers getting upwardly mobile, and how



Cash market turnover at NSE hits ₹200 lakh crore



Continued on Page 2

FY24 sees GST evasion double over previous fiscal

FE BUREAU
New Delhi, September 14

THE DIRECTORATE GENERAL of GST Intelligence (DGCI) has detected 6,084 cases of evasion in 2023-24, amounting to ₹2.01 lakh crore, which is double the amount detected in the previous fiscal, data sourced from DGCI annual report of FY24 showed.

The report shows that online gaming, BFSI are the sectors most prone to evasion. In FY24, ₹1,375 crore evasion was detected in the "real money online gaming" sector, and ₹18,963 crore in BFSI.

Among goods, iron, copper, scrap and alloys are the ones most prone to evasion (₹16,806 crore), followed by pan, masala, tobacco, cigarette and bidi (₹7,794 crore), said the report.

In FY24, voluntary taxes of ₹26,605 crore were paid, up from ₹20,713 crore in 2023-23.

Further, about 46% of the evasion cases related to non-payment of tax through clandestine supply and under-valuation, 20% related to fake input tax credit, and 19% to wrong availment/non-revelal of ITC, the report said.

The detection of GST evasion by DGCI has gradually seen an increase since the rollout of GST in 2017. In FY18, ₹7,879 crore was detected, followed by ₹19,319 crore in FY19. FY20 saw an evasion of ₹21,739 crore in 2019-20, and FY21 of ₹31,908 crore. In FY22, GST evasion worth ₹50,325 crore was detected, the report showed.

The report said the DGCI's use of data analytics has unveiled new tax evasion tactics, enabling targeted enforcement actions.

On the online gaming industry, the report said bringing the gaming entities under the tax net continues to be an "uphill task" it said many firms are set up in offshore tax havens, which are difficult for the authorities to ascertain their ultimate ownership.

The report also offers residency hotels in the Taj Wellington Mews at Mumbai and Chennai which include fully serviced apartments. Residential suites are available at Taj 51 Buckingham Gate, London, and The Pierre, New York, Inc. Older hotels like the Taj Bengal in Kolkata have also been renovated to include residential suites.

Continued on Page 2



EXTENDED STAY
Taj Mahal Hotel in New Delhi has two whole floors dedicated to residential suites (27 one- & two-bedroom) suites

Hyatt has been offering residences since 2010 at Hyatt Regency Pune, and Park Hyatt Hyderabad since 2012

At Andaz Delhi, a Hyatt hotel, 125 residential suites are included in a separate section of the hotel

While these are recent, Hyatt has been offering residences since 2010 at Hyatt Regency Pune, and Park Hyatt Hyderabad since 2012. At Andaz Delhi, a Hyatt hotel, 125 residential suites are included in a separate section of the hotel. At over 85%, with 80% corporate bookings, and general manager Harid Marwaj is 85% occupancy, with 95%

R.G. KAR CASE
CBI gets custody of former principal
NEWS » PAGE 4

GAZA FALLOUT
Yemen missile lands in Israel, triggers sirens at airport
WORLD » PAGE 14

POLICY FRAMEWORK
Realising the rural-urban continuum
A newer way for India to address challenges
OPINION » PAGE 9

IN CRUISE MODE
Sweden eases past India in Davis Cup
SPORT » PAGE 16

INSIDE
Vij stakes claim to CM post if BJP wins in Haryana
GURUGRAM
Former Haryana Home Minister Anil Vij has thrown his hat into the ring in the BJP, staking claim to the coveted chief ministerial post ahead of Haryana polls. » PAGE 2

SpaceX private astronauts return safely
WASHINGTON
The SpaceX Polaris Dawn mission, whose crew conducted the first spacewalk by private astronauts, splashed down off the coast of Florida on Sunday. » PAGE 14

Kejriwal to quit as Delhi CM, seeks early polls

AAP chief says he will submit his resignation in two days, and the party will elect a new leader to function during the election, which he wants to be held in November along with the polls in Maharashtra; says he chose to resign, less than 48 hours after being granted bail by the SC in the excise policy case, to stymie BJP's attempt to break AAP

Jaideep Deo Bhandi
NEW DELHI
Two days after he walked out of prison on bail, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal announced on Sunday that he would resign in two days. He called for an early Assembly election in the national capital, allowing the people of Delhi to decide if he was fit to continue as the Chief Minister's post, and I will not sit in the Chief Minister's chair until the public delivers its verdict on whether Kejriwal is honest," he told workers at the Aam Aadmi Party's office.

His announcement, which took the public and political circles by surprise, comes less than 48 hours after the Supreme Court granted him bail following nearly six months in jail in connection with the Delhi liquor policy case, currently under investigation by Central agencies. Mr. Kejriwal called for the Delhi election to be held along with the Maharashtra election scheduled for November, rather than waiting until February 2025.

The BJP termed his resignation plan a "conspiracy to hide theblemishes of corruption", arguing that Delhi voters had already rejected Mr. Kejriwal's plea for a certificate of honesty in the recent Lok Sabha election, where the BJP won all seven seats in the capital. "I want to appeal to all non-BJP Chief Ministers in the country: if the Prime Minister files a fake case against you and imprisons you, do not resign. Run the government from jail. Do not resign because our Delhi voters have already rejected Mr. Kejriwal's plea for a certificate of honesty in the recent Lok Sabha election, where the BJP won all seven seats in the capital."

Congress calls it 'drama', BJP says it's a 'confession'
NEW DELHI
The BJP on Sunday said Arvind Kejriwal's decision to resign from the post of Chief Minister after remaining in power for 49 days, "I resigned for my principles. No one had sought my resignation, I resigned on my own. I left the Chief Minister's chair on my own. I have no lust for the post of money. We only have a passion to do something for the country." Mr. Kejriwal said.

"I want to appeal to all non-BJP Chief Ministers in the country: if the Prime Minister files a fake case against you and imprisons you, do not resign. Run the government from jail. Do not resign because our Delhi voters have already rejected Mr. Kejriwal's plea for a certificate of honesty in the recent Lok Sabha election, where the BJP won all seven seats in the capital."

of the 70 seats in the Delhi Assembly. "I resigned from the post of Chief Minister after remaining in power for 49 days. I resigned for my principles. No one had sought my resignation, I resigned on my own. I left the Chief Minister's chair on my own. I have no lust for the post of money. We only have a passion to do something for the country." Mr. Kejriwal said.

Bomb explodes at Minister's house in Manipur; no casualties reported

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI
A bomb exploded at the house of Manipur Transport Minister Khasib Vashum in Ukhrul town in the State on Saturday night. The Minister was in the State capital, Imphal, about 80 km away. The police said no one was injured, and the residential complex in the Hamleikhong area in the Naga-dominated headquarters of Ukhrul district did not suffer much damage in the low-intensity blast.

We are trying to find out who was behind the blast," an officer said. Mr. Vashum, who also handles the Veterinary and Animal Husbandry portfolio, belongs to the Nagi People's Front, an ally of the

phal East, Imphal West, and Thoubal, three of the five districts in the valley, but was relaxed for a few hours to enable people to buy essentials. The Manipur government extended the suspension of internet and mobile data services, including VSAT and VPN services, in these three districts and Biharpur and Kakching till September 20. The order signed by Home Commissioner N. Ashok Kumar, however, said the ban would not apply to, or affect, a September 12 order regarding "conditional lifting of the suspension of internet services through broadband".

Another development in the conflict-scarred Manipur was the rescue of a 42-year-old Kuki woman from a non-Kuki market place in Jiribam by the Manipur police on Saturday.

Day of Democracy



Dasara elephants join a function in front of the Mysuru Palace on Sunday to mark the International Day of Democracy. M. A. SRINIVAS

CIC asks Railway to disclose list of staff with disabilities

S. Vijay Kumar
CHENNAI
The Central Information Commission (CIC) has advised the Tiruvananthapuram division of the Southern Railway to disclose the list of employees who have secured jobs under the category of people with disabilities, amid concern about fake disability certificates.

The CIC ruling came in response to a Right to Information petition filed by M. Aravind who sought the names of such employees along with certified copies of their disability certificates, expressing concern about fraudulent practices in the recruitment process.

In light of such incidents, Mr. Tiwari emphasized the need to publicly disclose the information requested, to ensure transparency and probity.

Maharashtra polls likely in second week of Nov.: Shinde

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI
Hudding hints about the upcoming Assembly election, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Shinde told presspersons on Sunday that it would likely be held in the second week of November and preferably in two phases.

Nipah death confirmed in Malappuram; 150 contacts asked to isolate themselves

The Hindu Bureau
MALAPPURAM
Health authorities in Kerala on Sunday confirmed that a 24-year-old man from Wandoor in Malappuram district in the State had died from Nipah infection.

The health authorities sent the serum samples to the virology laboratory at the Government Medical College Hospital, Kozhikode.

At night, 16 committees were formed under the protocol at night.

On July 21, a 14-year-old boy from Panthikkal, about 10 km from Wandoor, had died from Nipah infection at Government Medical College Hospital, Kozhikode. The boy's death had triggered an alarm across the district and authorities had imposed restrictions in two panchayats.

Day of Democracy



Dasara elephants join a function in front of the Mysuru Palace on Sunday to mark the International Day of Democracy. M.A. SRIRAM

Every year on September 15, people around the world come together to celebrate the International Day of Democracy.

This special day was established by the UN General Assembly in 2007 to promote and strengthen democratic values.



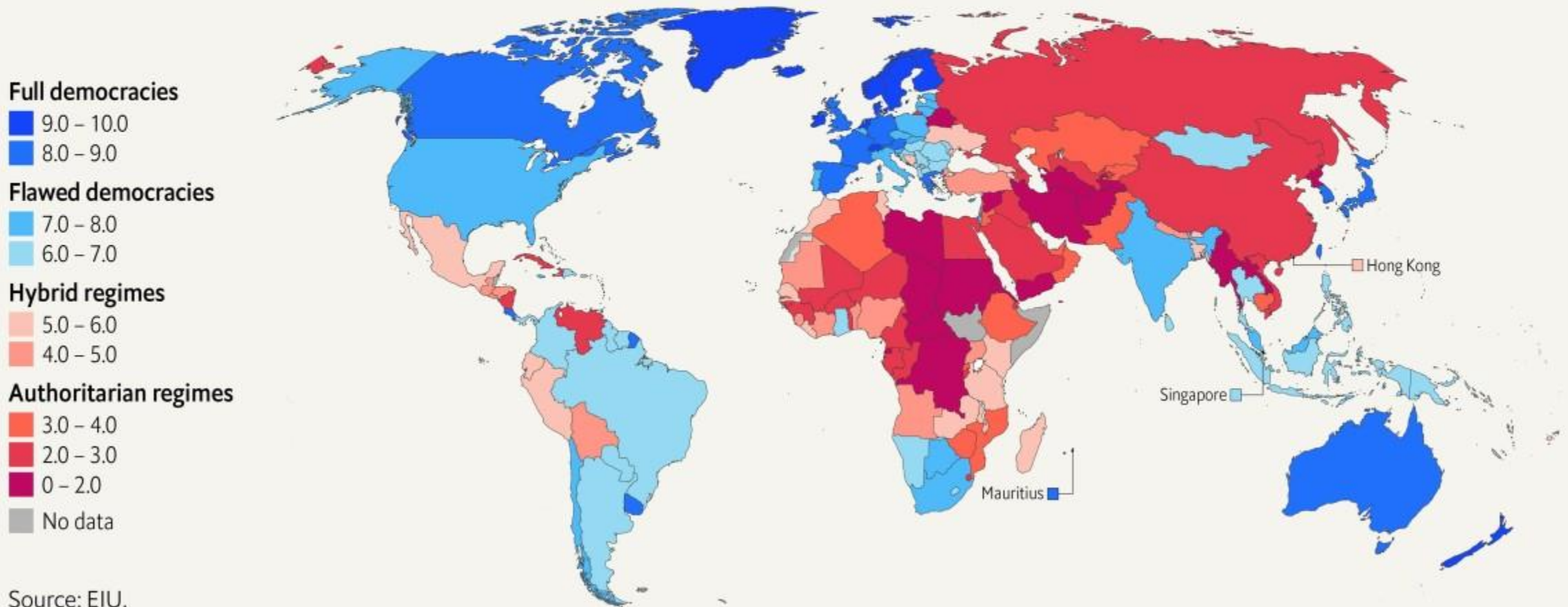
- **International Day of Democracy 2024: Theme**

This year's theme for the International Day of [Democracy](#) is 'Artificial Intelligence as a tool for good governance', with a focus on ensuring effective governance of AI at all levels, including internationally, to harness its benefits while mitigating its risks.

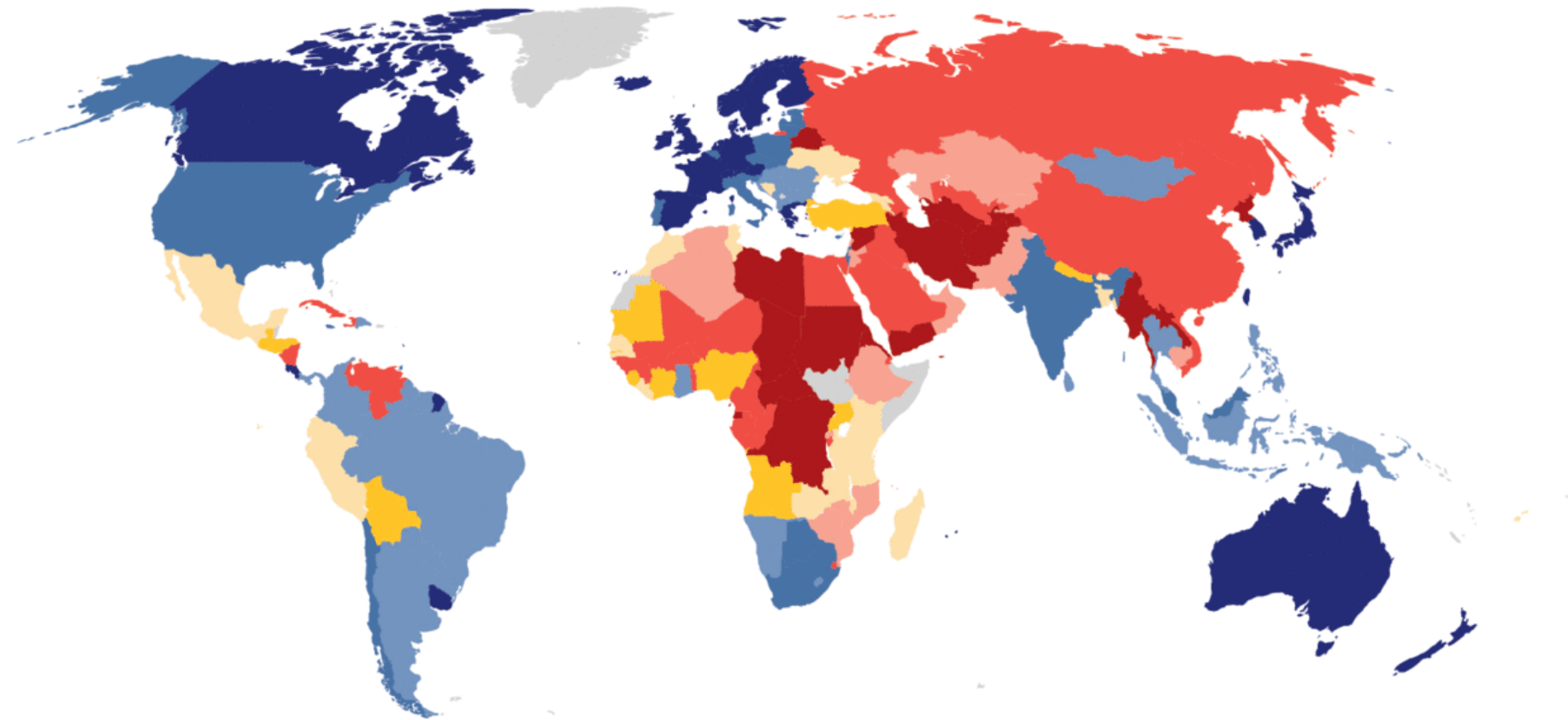


Democracy Index 2023

Only 8% of the world's population lives in a “full democracy”



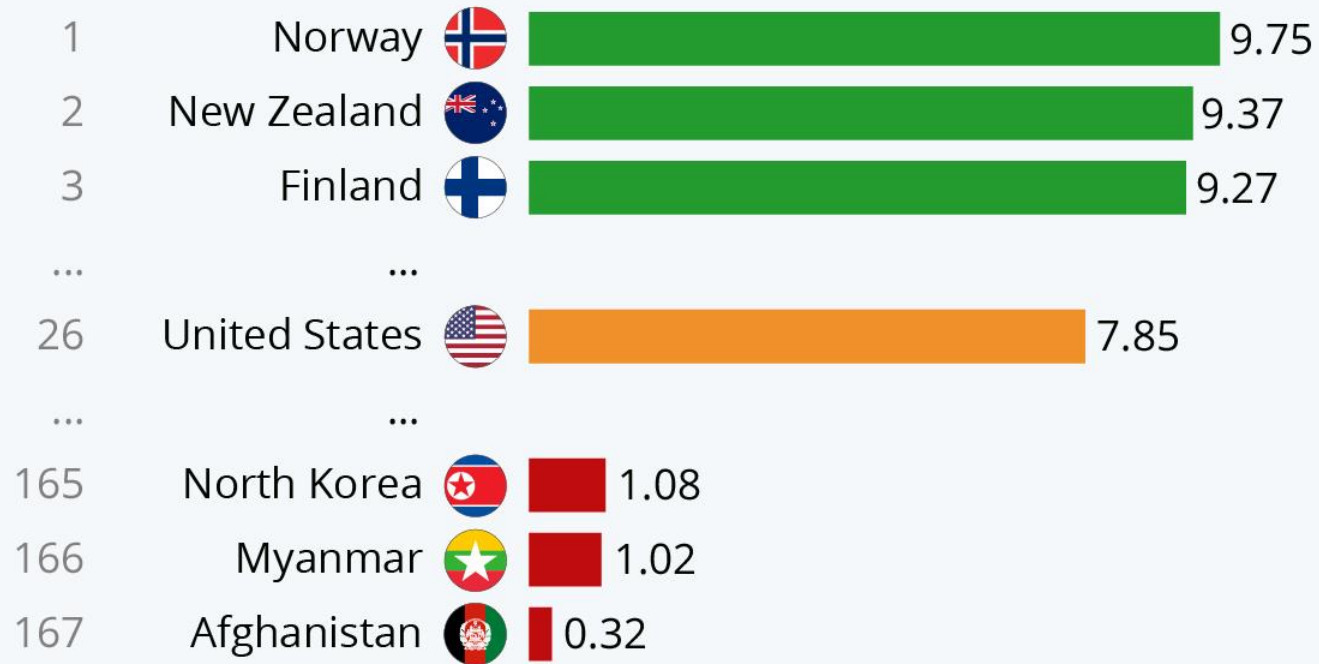
Democracy index, 2023



Source: EIU

The Best and Worst Countries For Democracy

2021 Democracy Index score
(10 = full democracy, 0 = authoritarian regime)*



* Takes into account electoral process and pluralism, civil liberties, government functioning, political participation and political culture.

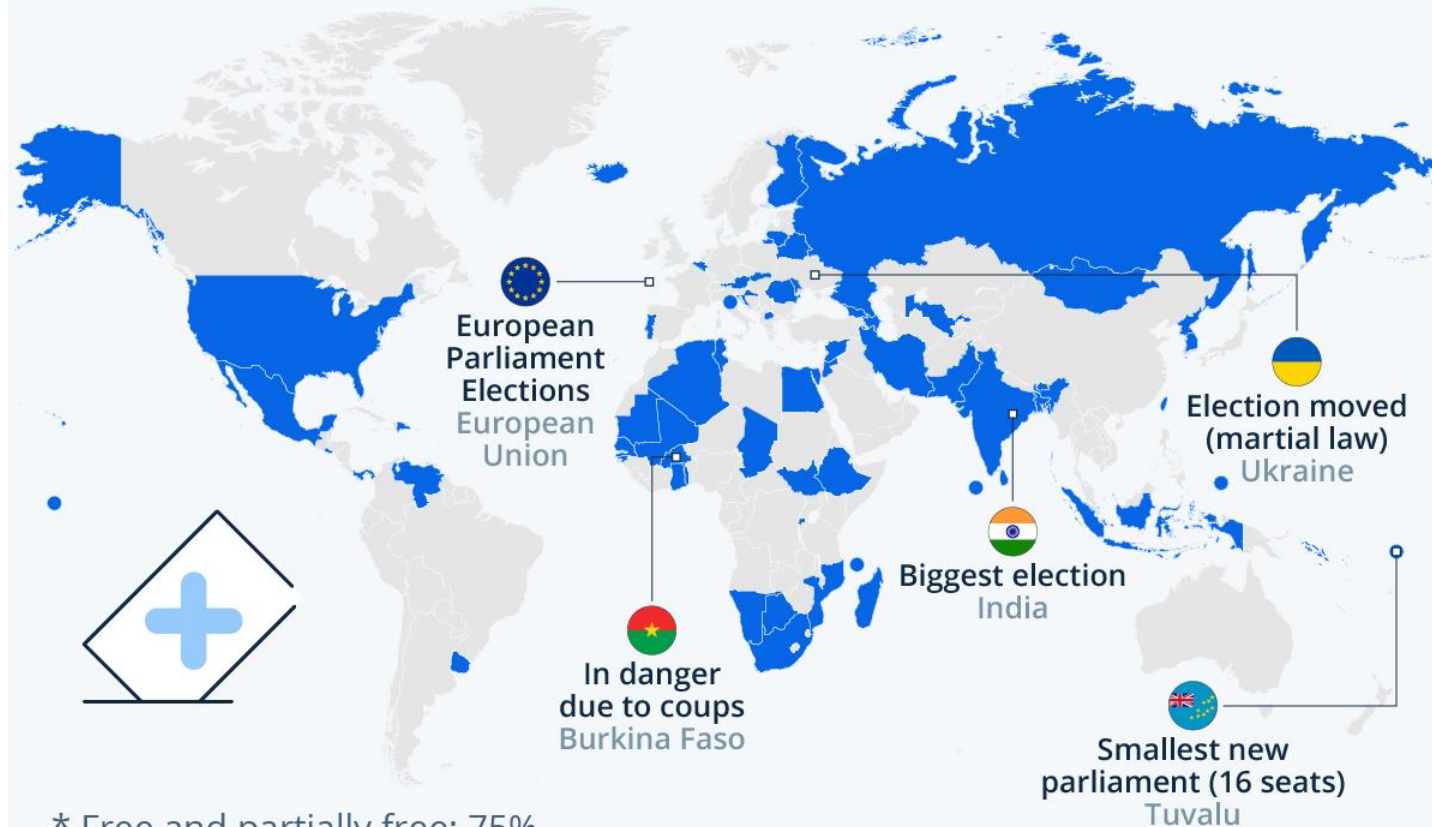
Source: Economist Intelligence Unit



2024: The Super Election Year

Countries where a national election is/was held in 2024

Expected number of voters: **2B** (~25% of world pop.) Share of free elections*: **38%**



* Free and partially free: 75%

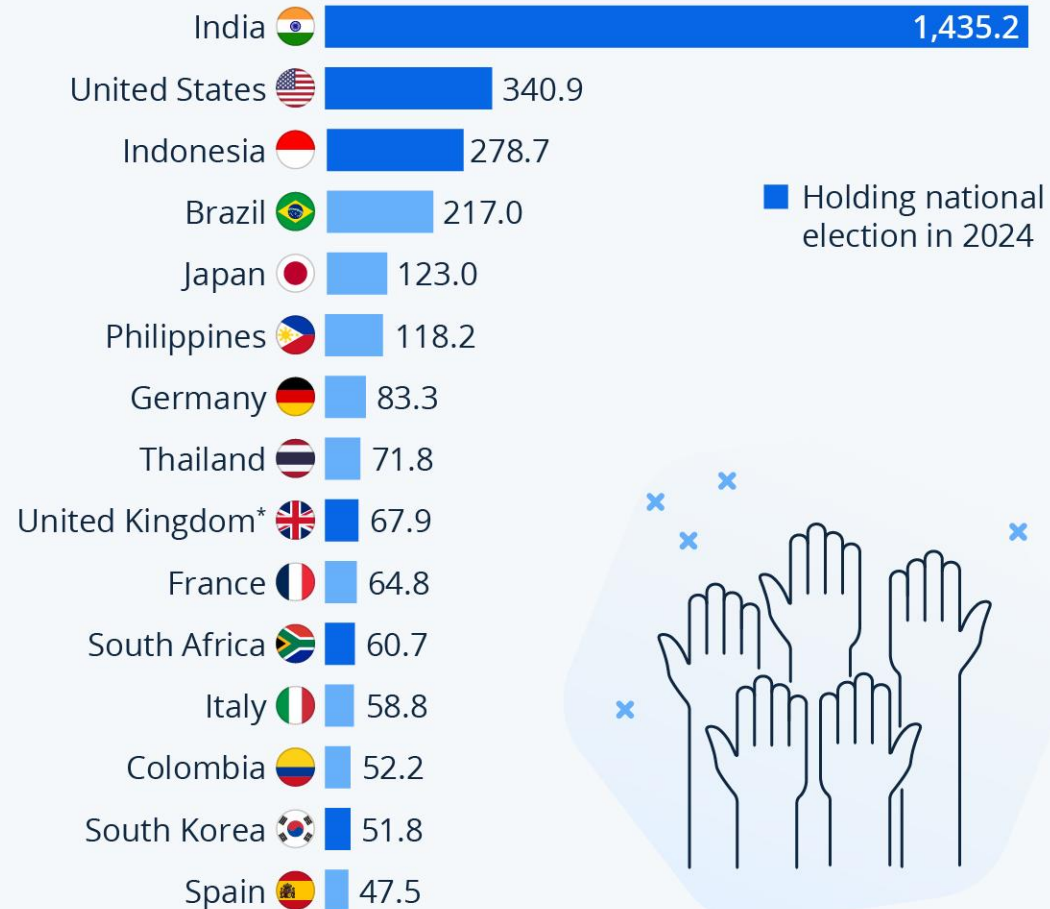
General, parliamentary, presidential and economic union elections

Sources: Anchor Change Election Cycle Tracker, Statista research



The World's Biggest Democracies

Estimated population of the world biggest democracies in 2024 (in million people)



* probably in October, no later than January 2025
Countries listed as democracies on EIU 2022 Democracy Index (latest available)
Sources: Economist Intelligence Unit, UN Population Division



IN BRIEF



GoM to review GST rates on health and life insurance

The GST Council constituted a 13-member Group of Ministers on Sunday to suggest GST rates on premiums of various health and life insurance products. It will submit its report by October 30.

Technical issue delays IndiGo flight to Doha for 18 hours

An IndiGo flight from Mumbai to Doha got delayed for about 18 hours on Sunday before it took off from the Mumbai airport at around 9.45 p.m. It was originally scheduled to depart around 4 a.m., sources said.

Power deal between Maharashtra govt., Adani rigged: Cong.

Press Trust of India NEW DELHI

With the Adani Group winning a bid to supply 6,000 MW of bundled renewable and thermal power to Maharashtra, the Congress on Sunday alleged that it was a "rigged deal" facilitated by the Maharashtra government.



Jayaram Ramesh, Maharashtra Government, speaking at a podium.

10 people killed as three-storey house collapses in Meerut

Women and children are among the deceased. District Magistrate says process under way to provide financial assistance; Cong. SP expresses grief

Press Trust of India MEERUT/LUCKNOW

Ten people were killed and five injured as a three-storey residential house collapsed in Meerut in Uttar Pradesh on Saturday, the district administration said on Sunday.



Fatal fall: Rescue operation under way after a house collapsed in Meerut on Saturday.

Senior officials, including Meerut Zone Additional Director-General of Police D.K. Thakur, Divisional Commissioner Seva Kumar J. Inspector-General of Police Nachiketa Jha, and Senior Superintendent of Police Vipin Tada reached the spot to monitor the rescue operation.

Policeman among 5 of family killed over 'witchcraft' in Sukma

Shubhamoy Sikdar RAIPUR

Five members of a family, including a head constable of the Chhattisgarh police, were allegedly beaten to death over suspicion of practising witchcraft in a village in Sukma district on Sunday, police said.

A priest had held the victims responsible for a few deaths in the village in the past fortnight

On Sunday, a meeting was held which was attended by nearly 25 people. Once the victims, including the head constable in plainclothes reached there, an argument ensued between them and the other villagers, who held them responsible for the deaths.

I&B Ministry to use AI tool to predict media trends

Devesh K. Pandey NEW DELHI

The Information and Broadcasting (I&B) Ministry is planning to introduce an artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML)-powered integrated dashboard with the capability to analyse recent news reports for forecasting emerging trends.

The Ministry has requested for an Expression of Interest (EoI) by interested parties for design, development, implementation, and maintenance of the integrated dashboard.

Two Navy officers to embark on gruelling blue-water global voyage

Press Trust of India NEW DELHI

After three years of preparations, two women officers of the Indian Navy are set to embark on an arduous blue-water voyage around the world.



Tough mission: The two officers have been preparing for the Sagor Parikrama expedition for the past three years.

The Sagor Parikrama expedition for the past three years, Commander Madhwal said. The officers are undergoing training under the mentorship of ace circumnavigator and Golden Globe Race hero, retired Commander Abhilash Tomy.

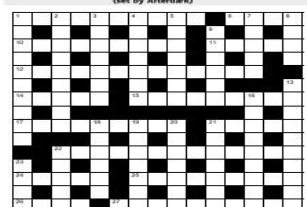
India sends supplies to typhoon-hit Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam

The Hindu Bureau NEW DELHI

India on Sunday launched Operation Sachchiv to provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (IADR) to Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam that have been hit by severe flooding caused by Typhoon Yagi.

Myanmar, Vietnam and Laos. Ten tonnes of aid, including dry ration, clothing and medicines left for Myanmar onboard INS Sorpura on September 15. IAF is carrying 35 tonnes of aid comprising 100000 mosquito nets, water purification items, water containers, blankets, kitchen utensils, solar lanterns for Myanmar. Ten tonnes of aid comprising genset, water purification items, hygiene kits, mosquito nets, blankets and sleeping bags sent for Laos.

THROWORD 14281 (set by Afterword)



- Across 1 Vehicle reverses on street at a circle, basically near a small power house (10) 6 Girl in a US city takes a ship (4) 9 Registration made with specialist for admission of rabbi and aged people without 500 (9) 11 Mark found in Insta intermittently (5)

To solve this puzzle online, get access to our crossword site. @ https://www.puzz-ink.com/

- 12 With Delhi, there too served English dish (4+2+3+4) 13 Graced new pen after left (9) 15 Let off former lover, one using speed (9) 17 Thracian gladiator's wreath with aid at America (9) 21 Bring the foot down slowly, tread on mat, prostrate in the front (8) 22 Aunt roasting some lambs, gets burned leading to suffocation (13) 24 A German had a gemstone (5) 25 Smoking nicotine around hospital puts one precariously close to trouble (2+4+3) 26 A piece of satin or same type of fabric (4) 27 Persistent and aggressive sellers hound a specialist (10) Down 1 Ice mood with some cocaine? PT miss has doubt (13) 2 Predatory man seen in pub, Dracula lacking love, is drunk (9) 3 Powerful, legendary anchor in Germany (7) 4 Article on a tree abridged at the stage (7) 5 One then got tails out working constantly (2,3,2) 6 Observant king replaced by another and nothing changes (5) 8 Chant for god after lapse (4) 9 As an animal loses the first step on land... (6) 10 ...unnamed Pole was confused and received a few directions (12) 16 Heartless. Hate police officer in England; original inhabitant (9) 18 Late operator in a bad patch (6) 19 Herd at criminal's message (7) 20 Travel stop, having tea, in conversation with the French (7) 21 Trages conducted at island, perhaps (7) 22 A sluggish person uncovers cycling (5) 23 Service the crowd (4)

SUDOKU

521 739 389 27 289 87841 71287 576 832

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to previous puzzle: 36744895214 95132768410 62397148955 17985662438 29617934588 81429534677 73564889122

FAITH

Id, a day of rejoicing

Id-e-Milad, Milad-un-Nabi, Mawlid which falls on September 16 is a very special occasion for Muslims and commemorates the birth anniversary of Prophet Muhammad who is regarded as the last Prophet sent by Allah.

This day is celebrated by both the Shias and the Sunnis across the world. It is a day for cleaning and decorating mosques, wearing new clothes, exchanging greetings and holding feasts. The day marks participation in large processions, special congregations at mosques, seeking forgiveness and self-reflection, educating people about the teachings and lessons from Prophet Muhammad's life.

India sends supplies to typhoon-hit Laos, Myanmar, Vietnam

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

India on Sunday launched Operation Sadbhav to provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) to Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam that have been hit by severe flooding caused by Typhoon Yagi.

India has committed \$1 million worth of flood relief assistance to Vietnam and \$1,00,000 worth of assistance to Laos, the Ministry of External Affairs announced. Following this, the Indian Navy and the Indian Air Force swung into action, deploying ships and aircraft to ferry the assistance.

In solidarity

“Demonstrating our solidarity with the people affected by Typhoon Yagi, India is dispatching aid to

Myanmar, Vietnam and Laos. Ten tonnes of aid, including dry ration, clothing and medicines left for Myanmar onboard *INS Satpura* on September 15. IAF is carrying 35 tonnes of aid comprising water purification items, water containers, blankets, kitchen utensils, solar lanterns for Vietnam. Ten tonnes of aid comprising genset, water purification items, hygiene supplies, mosquito nets, blankets and sleeping bags sent for Laos,” External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said in a post on X.

The IAF has deployed its C-17 Globemaster aircraft for the HADR operations to airlift aid to Vietnam and Laos. Swift and efficient loading and coordination was carried out by the C-17 team at the Hindan Air Force Station, an IAF official said.



Kunming

Guiyang

Changsha

Fuzhou

MYANMAR

LAOS

VIETNAM

Nanning

Guangzhou

Dongguan

Shenzhen

**Typhoon
Yagi**

Rangoon

THAILAND

Bangkok

EXCLUSIVE ACCUWEATHER FORECAST

YAGI EYE PATH* THROUGH SUNDAY

All times local

Saffir-Simpson
Hurricane Wind Scale



Two Navy officers to embark on gruelling blue-water global voyage

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI

After three years of preparations, two women officers of the Indian Navy are set to embark soon on an arduous blue-water voyage around the world.

Lt. Commanders A. Roopa and K. Dilna will be undertaking the expedition of circumnavigating the globe onboard *INSV Tarini*, Navy spokesperson Commander Vivek Madhwal said on Sunday.

Lt. Commander Dilna, who hails from Kozhikode, was commissioned into the Navy in June 2014. Her father, the late Devadasan, served the Indian Army. Lt. Commander Roopa, a native of Puducherry, joined the Navy in June 2017. Her father, G.P. Alagirisamy, was in the Indian Air Force. The two officers have been preparing for



Tough mission: The two officers have been preparing for the *Sagar Parikrama* expedition for the past three years. ANI

the *Sagar Parikrama* expedition for the past three years, Commander Madhwal said.

“*Sagar Parikrama* would be a gruelling voyage requiring extreme skills, physical fitness and mental alertness. The officers have been training rigorously and gained thousands of miles of experience under their

belt,” Commander Madhwal said.

The officers are undergoing training under the mentorship of ace circumnavigator and Golden Globe Race hero, retired Commander Abhilash Tomy. The officers, as part of a six-member crew, had participated in transoceanic expedition from Goa to Rio de Janeiro in

Brazil, via Cape Town in South Africa, and back last year.

Thereafter, they undertook a sailing expedition from Goa to Port Blair and back in double-handed mode. Further, the duo successfully undertook a sortie from Goa to Port Louis, Mauritius again in the same mode early this year.

“Indian Navy has made significant efforts to revitalise the sailing tradition, emphasising its commitment to preserve maritime heritage and promote seamanship skills,” the Navy spokesperson said.

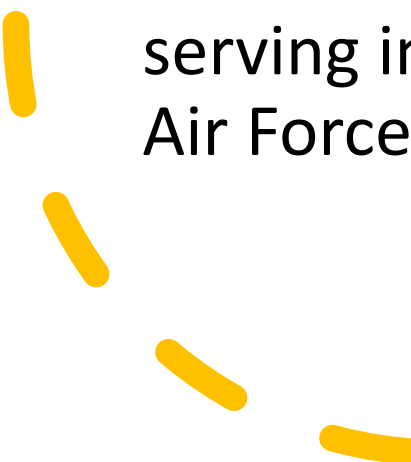
He said the Indian Navy has taken a centre stage in ocean sailing expeditions through the pioneering efforts of sail training ships - *INS Tarangini* and *INS Sudarshini*, and circumnavigating aboard *INSV Mhadei* and *INSV Tarini*.

- **Upcoming Global Circumnavigation by Two Women Navy Officers**
- Lt. Commanders A. Roopa and K. Dilna of the Indian Navy are set to embark on a challenging blue-water voyage around the world.
- They will be sailing aboard the Indian Navy's vessel **INSV Tarini**.





- **Background of the Officers**

- **Lt. Commander K. Dilna**, from Kozhikode, was commissioned into the Navy in 2014.
 - **Lt. Commander A. Roopa**, from Puducherry, joined the Navy in 2017.
 - Both officers come from military families, with K. Dilna's father serving in the Indian Army and A. Roopa's father serving in the Indian Air Force.
- 

- **The Sagar Parikrama Expedition**
- The officers have been preparing for three years for this voyage, named **Sagar Parikrama**, which demands exceptional physical fitness, mental alertness, and sailing skills.
- The expedition is designed to test the limits of the participants' endurance, requiring rigorous training and extensive sailing experience.



Previous Experience and Training

The officers trained under the mentorship of retired Commander Abhilash Tomy, a renowned sailor and Golden Globe Race hero.

They have participated in several trans-oceanic expeditions, including:

- A voyage from Goa to Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, via Cape Town in South Africa.
- Sailing expeditions from Goa to Port Blair and from Goa to Port Louis, Mauritius, in double-handed mode.

- **Indian Navy's Focus on Sailing Tradition**
- The Indian Navy has made significant efforts to revitalize its sailing tradition and promote maritime heritage and seamanship skills.
- The Navy has taken a leading role in ocean sailing expeditions, highlighted by pioneering efforts through **INS Tarangini** and **INS Sudarshini**, and global circumnavigations aboard **INSV Mhadei** and **INSV Tarini**.



- Consider the following statements regarding the upcoming global voyage of two Indian Navy officers:
 - 1.Lt. Commanders A. Roopa and K. Dilna will embark on the blue-water voyage aboard **INSV Mhadei**.
 - 2.The officers have been training for the **Sagar Parikrama** expedition for three years under the mentorship of retired Commander Abhilash Tomy.
 - 3.The Indian Navy has been emphasizing sailing traditions and has participated in several global circumnavigation expeditions, including **INSV Tarini**.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
 - **a) 1 and 2 only**
 - **b) 2 and 3 only**
 - **c) 1 and 3 only**
 - **d) 1, 2, and 3**

EFE, P30
Firms focus on budget phones with 5G chipsets

NEW DELHI, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2024

FINANCIAL EXPRESS

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IN THE NEWS

REVISION OF CPI SERIES TO RELY ON 2022-23 INPUTS

THE GOVERNMENT HAS completed the household consumption expenditure survey (HCEES) for 2022-23, and a preliminary analysis shows that its results are largely similar to the one of 2022-23, a senior official said, reports **Piyush Varma**, p. 2.

MEP ABOLITION TO BOOST BASMATI RICE EXPORTS

THE GOVERNMENT'S MOVE to abolish the minimum export price (MEP) of \$ 950/tonne imposed a year ago is set to give a boost to export of basmati rice and ensure parity with competitor Pakistan in global trade and ensure farmers get remunerative prices just ahead of commencement of harvesting of paddy, rice exporters said, reports **Sandeep Das**, p. 2.

COFFEE CHAIN STARTUPS DRAWING VCS & PEs AGAIN

COFFEE CHAIN STARTUPS are seeing renewed interest from investors this year, reports **S Shashi**. While speciality coffee chain Blue Tokai Coffee raised \$35 million last month, Subico Coffee Roasters raised \$10 million and abCoffee picked up \$3.4 million, both in March this year, **PAGE 6**.

ZOMATO TO END AI-GENERATED IMAGES ON MENU

ZOMATO HAS DECIDED to put an end to AI-generated images on restaurant partners' menus and marketing materials, making it the first among digital marketplaces to try and tackle the issue of real vs fake imagery, reports **Anees Hussain**, **PAGE 6**.

BANKS RAISE ₹50,000 CR VIA INFRA BONDS

BANKS HAVE RAISED more than ₹50,000 crore in the first five-and-a-half months of the current fiscal by issuing infrastructure bonds as deposit growth had remained low since firm credit demand, reports **Sachin Kumar**, **PAGE 6**.

FE SPECIALS

BRANDWAGON, P9
Rewriting the script
Will JoCinema pull off another coup, this time in the OTT market?

VIVEAT SUSAN PINTO
Mumbai, September 15
THE PREMIUMISATION TREND in consumer durables is consolidating as the need to upgrade to bigger and better products, led by easy financing and rapid technological changes, is driving sales more than last year, top executives at durables firms have told **FE**.

EXPLAINER, P6
Why e-Shram is still a work in progress
Choice agonists who employ gig workers have to take the lead in getting them registered.

BACK PAGE, P22
For BB, it's Now or never as q-comm gains speed

TEAM FROM UK WILL VISIT PROJECT SITES IN NOVEMBER

India eyes \$10-bn infra push from London funds

Early investments will be in highway and rapid transport projects

PRASANTA SAHU
New Delhi, September 15

INDIA IS LOOKING to attract investment commitments to the tune of \$10 billion from funds parked in the City of London in marquee projects, including highway stretches and the National Capital Region's rapid transport systems, by next year.

INFRA IN THE FAST LANE

Majority of asset managers based in London, the world's second-largest financial services centre, don't invest in India.

India is currently in discussion with a host of countries to attract FDI

In the initial phase, the London funds would be encouraged to participate in bids for the National Highway Authority of India's 10 projects and three multimodal hubs of National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) at Anand/Vijay, Sarai Kale Khan and Ghaziabad. The network has been planned and spatially oriented to scan the integration with the Indian Railways, Inter-State Bus Terminals (ISBT), airports and the Delhi Metro.

The aim is to deliver 4-6 marquee projects with the participation of a few big international players. These will become demonstration projects, a senior official said, adding that these marquee project financing models would be replicated in other projects.

Semicon 2.0 to cover large design firms too

JATIN GROVER
New Delhi, September 15

THE SEMICONDUCTOR INCENTIVE scheme 2.0, which the government is expected to announce in the next three-four months, is likely to provide subsidy to even big firms that are into chip designing. Not only this, the subsidy amount is expected to be raised.

CHIPPING IN

Currently, government supports chip design startups by reimbursing 50% of design-related expenditure, with a ceiling of ₹15 cr.

In the proposed scheme, semiconductor intellectual property will have to be in India for firms to be eligible for incentives.

Oil India, TotalEnergies in talks for offshore projects

ARUNIMA BHARADWAJ
New Delhi, September 15

STATE-OWNED OIL INDIA Ltd (OIL) is in discussion with French energy company TotalEnergies for exploration of hydrocarbon blocks off India's coast, reports **Arunima Bharadwaj**.

Oil India and TotalEnergies are now framing the memorandum of understanding on whether they want to explore on based as a technical partner or if they are interested to be a participating interest partner; the company executive said. The company is also in discussion with other international companies, including PET Exploration and Production Public Company in Thailand, Malaysian state-owned oil and gas company Petronas, and Vietnamese state-owned Petrovietnam, for exploration of offshore blocks.

INTERNATIONAL, P5
High-level US delegation calls on Yunus in Dhaka

New twist to Kalyani family dispute over mother's second will

GEETA NAIR
Pune, September 15

INA FRESH twist to the Kalyani family battle, a dispute has emerged over the group matriarch Sulochana Kalyani's will. Both her sons, Baba Kalyani and Gaurishankar Kalyani, have staked their claim to their mother's wealth through two different wills.

Gaurishankar, brother of Baba Kalyani, chairman and managing director of Bharat Forge, has contested the will dated January 2012 that has been moved for probate by executor, Madan Unnath Tale and Shree Ishna Kiran Advarekar. This was done on February 9, 2024. The hearing for this case is scheduled for October 9, 2024.

RUN-INS

Baba Kalyani, CMD of Bharat Forge, claims that everything he owns is self-created and not ancestral.

According to his brother Gaurishankar, Baba Kalyani has been accused by their mother Sulochana of taking away most of the family wealth.

FPIs invest ₹27,856 cr in equities in a fortnight

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
New Delhi, September 15

FOREIGN INVESTORS HAVE infused ₹27,856 crore in domestic equities in the first fortnight of this month, owing to the resilience of the Indian market and growing optimism around the central bank's interest rate cut in the US.

KEJRIWAL SAYS WILL RESIGN AS CM

DELHI CM Arvind Kejriwal addresses AAP workers in New Delhi on Sunday. Days after being released on bail in an excise policy case, he announced that he would resign as CM in the next two days and sought early assembly elections in Delhi. **PAGE 17**



Adani to supply 6,600 MW power to Maharashtra

ADANI GROUP has won a bid to supply 6,600 MW of bundled renewable and thermal power to Maharashtra for the long term under its quote of ₹4.08 per unit beat the likes of JSW Energy and Torrent Power. Adani Power's bid for the bundled renewable and thermal energy supply for 25 years was almost a rupee lower than the cost at which Maharashtra currently procures electricity and will help meet future electricity requirements of the state, sources said. Supplies are to start in 48 months from the date of award of the letter of intent. —PTI

US lenders counter Biju's founder's claim on debt

US LENDERS REPRESENTED BY Glas Trust have countered Biju's founder Biju Raveendran's claim on verified debt to the company being merely around ₹20 crore, and have said that the delisted edtech firm still owes the entire \$1.2 billion Term Loan B along with interest, reports **PTI**. Glas Trust has issued Biju's for the recovery of \$1.2 billion TLB in US as well as in India. The financial trouble of once the most valued Indian edtech firm Biju's started after US-based lenders started legal action against the company. **PAGE 4**

ENTRY-LEVEL CATEGORIES REMAIN MUTED, SAY TOP EXECUTIVES

Onam sets festive tone as premium durables drive sales

VIVEAT SUSAN PINTO
Mumbai, September 15

THE PREMIUMISATION TREND in consumer durables is consolidating as the need to upgrade to bigger and better products, led by easy financing and rapid technological changes, is driving sales more than last year, top executives at durables firms have told **FE**.



Onam, which was celebrated on Sunday and signals the start of the two-month festive season in India, has borne out this trend, executives say. The premiumisation trend is pronounced in urban areas, where demand has been stable. Rural markets, while exhibiting signs of recovery, will begin to pick up with a lag, but largely for entry-level durable products, said executives.

SHOPPING CELEBRATIONS

The two-month festive season gives consumer durable companies a third of their annual sales. Companies have seen up to 35% growth in consumer durable sales in Q3 over last year.

According to Cricil, domestic consumer durable makers will see an overall growth of 9-10% in FY25.

Malayali women celebrate Onam with 'poorkaam', (flower-rangoli) in Chikmagalur, Karnataka, on Sunday.

due to the mass segment which was muted in previous years. Onam this year is certainly better, says a top executive. This year, we have seen a 15-20% year-on-year growth, led by

premium products during Onam this year, Kamal Nandi, business head and executive vice president, Godrej Appliances, said.

Typically, India's festive season gives consumer durable companies a third of their annual sales. Firms do everything from launching new products, driving consumer offers, discounts and cashbacks, and putting out aggressive advertising and marketing campaigns to draw the attention of shoppers during the period.

Onam gives an early indication of how the festive season will look like. We have seen an almost 30-35% growth this Onam over last year, says a top executive. This year, we have seen a 15-20% year-on-year growth, led by premium products during Onam this year, Kamal Nandi, business head and executive vice president, Godrej Appliances, said.

Typically, India's festive season gives consumer durable companies a third of their annual sales. Firms do everything from launching new products, driving consumer offers, discounts and cashbacks, and putting out aggressive advertising and marketing campaigns to draw the attention of shoppers during the period.

TEAM FROM UK WILL VISIT PROJECT SITES IN NOVEMBER

India eyes \$10-bn infra push from London funds

Early investments will be in highway and rapid transport projects

PRASANTA SAHU
New Delhi, September 15

INDIA IS LOOKING to attract investment commitments to the tune of \$10 billion from funds parked in the City of London in marquee projects, including highway stretches and the National Capital Region's rapid transport systems, by next year.

These initial investments from London-based fund houses will herald large-scale influx of "patient capital" in the country's burgeoning infrastructure sector, official sources said.

Earlier this month, a team led by Niti Aayog CEO BVR Subrahmanyam met fund houses in London to discuss the "huge potential" in India. An agreement on the financing bridge was signed between the City of London Corporation and the Niti Aayog on September 11 last year to tap a part of the trillions of dollars managed by London-based asset managers.

INFRA IN THE FAST LANE

■ Majority of asset managers based in London, the world's second-largest financial services centre, don't invest in India

■ Officials cite information gaps behind lack of fund flows



■ India is currently in discussion with a host of countries to attract FDI

■ Net FDI inflows to India declined to **\$26.5 bn** in FY24 from **\$42 bn** in FY23

■ India largely finances its infra projects through locally available funds

In the initial phase, the London funds would be encouraged to participate in bids for the National Highways Authority of India's 8-10 projects and three multimodal hubs of National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) at Anand Vihar, Sarai Kale Khan and Ghaziabad. The network has been planned and spatially oriented to ensure seamless integration with the Indian Railways, Inter-State Bus Terminals (ISBTs), airports and the Delhi Metro.

"The aim is to deliver 4-6 marquee pro-

jects with the participation of a few big international players. Then they will become demonstration projects," a senior official said, adding that these same project financing models would be replicated in other projects.

Currently, India largely finances its infrastructure projects through domestically available funds including government budgets.


Continued on Page 17

- **India's \$10 Billion Infrastructure Push from London Funds**
- India is seeking to attract investment commitments worth \$10 billion from funds parked in London for infrastructure projects.
- The focus will be on marquee projects such as highways and rapid transport systems in the National Capital Region (NCR).






- **Agreement for Financing**

- An agreement on the financing bridge was signed between the City of London Corporation and NITI Aayog in September 2023.
 - The aim is to channel a portion of trillions of dollars managed by London-based asset managers towards Indian infrastructure.
- 




- **Focus on Early Projects**

- The initial phase will see London-based funds participating in bids for projects overseen by the **National Highways Authority of India** and **National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC)**.
 - These projects include three multimodal hubs in Anand Vihar, Sarai Kale Khan, and Ghaziabad, designed to integrate seamlessly with Indian Railways, airports, bus terminals, and the Delhi Metro.
- 



- **Team Visit and Next Steps**

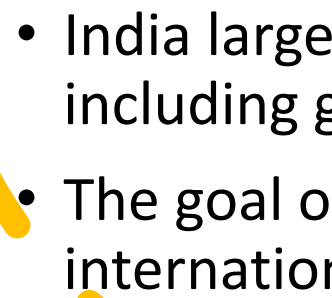
- A team from the UK will visit project sites in India in November 2023 to assess investment opportunities.
 - The first phase aims to deliver four to six marquee projects with international collaboration, establishing them as demonstration projects.
- 



- **Challenges in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)**

- India's net FDI inflows fell to \$26.5 billion in FY24, down from \$42 billion in FY23.
- Most asset managers based in London do not invest in India due to information gaps, although India is currently engaged in discussions with several countries to attract more FDI.

- **Current Infrastructure Financing**

- 
- India largely finances its infrastructure projects through locally available funds, including government budgets.
 - The goal of engaging London funds is to establish new financing models and draw international participation.

- Consider the following statements regarding India's plan to attract investment from London-based funds for infrastructure projects:
 1. India is looking to attract \$10 billion in investment from London-based asset managers for projects including highways and transport systems.
 2. India's net FDI inflows increased from \$26.5 billion in FY23 to \$42 billion in FY24.
 3. An agreement on the financing bridge was signed between the City of London Corporation and NITI Aayog in September 2023.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?
 - **a) 1 and 3 only**
 - **b) 2 and 3 only**
 - **c) 1 and 2 only**
 - **d) 1, 2, and 3**

Delay in Appointment of NHRC Chairperson



Section 2, 3 and 4 of TPHRA lay down the rules for appointment to the NHRC. The chairperson and members of the NHRC are appointed by the [President of India](#), on the recommendation of a committee consisting of:

- The [Prime Minister](#) (chairperson)
- The [Home Minister](#)
- The [Leader of the Opposition](#) in the [Lok Sabha](#) (Lower House)
- The [Leader of the Opposition](#) in the [Rajya Sabha](#) (Upper House)
- The [Speaker](#) of the [Lok Sabha](#) (Lower House)
- The [Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha](#) (Upper House)

Details

It is a statutory body. The chairman and members hold office for a term of three years or till age of seventy.

Structure

- **Chairperson:** Former Chief Justice of India or a Judge of the SC.
- **One member:** Former judge of SC or Chief Justice of a HC.
- **Three Members:** Having knowledge regarding human rights.
- The Chairpersons of NCSC, NCST, NCW, NCM, NCBC, NCPCR are ex-officio members.

Functions

- Inquire into violations of human rights by government of India
- Review the factors for acts of terrorism and recommend remedial measures
- To study treaties and other international instruments on human rights
- To visit jails and study the condition of inmates
- Engage in human rights education among various sections of society and promote awareness of the safeguards available.
- Encourage the efforts of NGOs to work in the field of human rights.



- 
- The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has been without a full-time chairperson since June 1, 2024, following the retirement of former Supreme Court Justice Arun Mishra.
 - **About Current Leadership**
 - Vijayabharathi Sayani is the only full-time member and acting chairperson, handling all responsibilities.
 - The NHRC should have a chairperson and five other full-time members. It is currently operating with only one full-time member out of six required positions and seven ex-officio members.

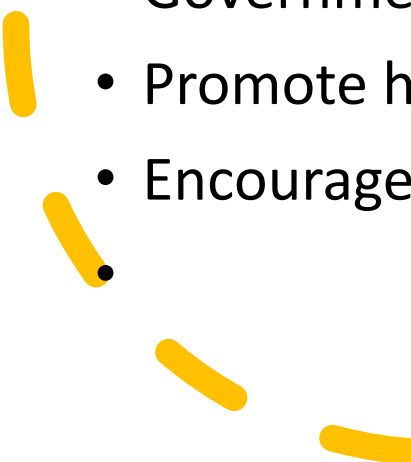
- **About National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)**

- It was established on October 12, 1993, under the Protection of Human Rights Act (PHRA), 1993, amended by the **Protection of Human Rights (Amendment) Act, 2006**.
- It aligns with the **Paris Principles**, which were endorsed by the UN General Assembly in 1993.
- The **Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993** was amended in 2019 to allow **any Supreme Court judge** to head the **NHRC**, not just retired Chief Justices of India.




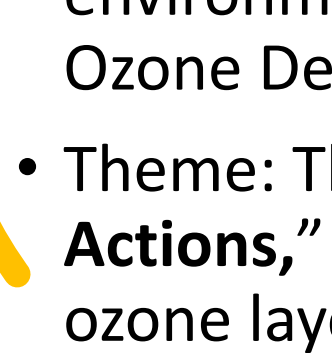


- **Functions and Mandate**

- Enquire into complaints of human rights violations or negligence by public servants.
 - Study human rights treaties and international instruments.
 - Make recommendations for effective implementation of these treaties to the Government.
 - Promote human rights awareness among the public.
 - Encourage human rights literacy at both national and international levels.
- 





World Ozone Day

- 
- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change held an event in New Delhi to celebrate the 30th World Ozone Day.
 - **About Day**
 - World Ozone Day is celebrated on 16th September each year to commemorate the signing of the **Montreal Protocol**, an international environmental treaty for phasing out of production and consumption of Ozone Depleting Substances, that came into force on this day in 1987.
 - Theme: The theme for 2024 was “**Montreal Protocol: Advancing Climate Actions**,” highlighting the Montreal Protocol’s dual role in protecting the ozone layer and driving global climate action.
- 



- **India's Participation :**
- India is a Party to the Montreal Protocol since June 1992, has been successfully implementing the **Montreal Protocol** and its ozone-depleting substances phase-out projects and activities in line with the phase-out schedule of the Protocol.



- 
- India has phased out **Chlorofluorocarbons, Carbon tetrachloride, Halons, Methyl Bromide and Methyl Chloroform** for controlled uses as on 1 January 2010, in line with the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule.
 - Currently, **Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs)** are being phased out as per the accelerated schedule of the Montreal Protocol.
- 

- Ozone, with the chemical formula O_3 , differs from the breathable oxygen (O_2) essential for life.
 - Although it makes up a small part of the atmosphere, ozone is crucial for human well-being.
 - Most ozone is found in the stratosphere, 10 to 40 km above Earth's surface, where it absorbs harmful ultraviolet radiation from the Sun, making it "good" ozone.



- 
- – In contrast, excess ozone at Earth's surface, formed from pollutants, is “bad” ozone and can be harmful.
 - Naturally occurring ozone near the surface also helps remove pollutants from the atmosphere.
- 

Word of the day

Callow:

young and inexperienced

Synonyms: naive, untrained, immature

Usage: *Voters are fed up with callow youths.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/callowpro

**International Phonetic
Alphabet:** /kæləʊ/

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• LIVE DOUBT SESSION



A group of people are clapping in a dimly lit room. The focus is on the hands and forearms of several individuals, some in the foreground and some blurred in the background. The lighting is soft and moody, with a blueish tint. In the top left corner, there is a solid orange horizontal bar and a cluster of small, glowing red dots of varying sizes.

Thank you
guys.
